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georgetown post #2

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JOHN L. BURTON
5TH DISTRICT, CALIFORNIA

SELECT COMMITTEE ON AGING
COMMITTEE ON HOUSE ADMINISTRATION
COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS
SUBCOMMITTEES:
CONSERVATION, ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES
INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS AND HUMAN RESOURCES

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

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WASHINGTON, D.C. 20515
(202) 225-5161

DISTRICT OFFICES:
450 GOLDEN GATE AVENUE
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SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA 94102
(415) 556-1333

910 D STREET
BOX 1048
SAN RAFAEL, CALIFORNIA 94902
(415) 457-7272

April 6, 1978

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/GIS/IPS
REVIEWED BY DMart DATE 3/2/87
PORTIONS DENIED AS INDICATED

U. S. Consul
U. S. Embassy
Georgetown, Guyana

Dear Mr. Consul:

Attached please find correspondence from [redacted] concerning his sons, [redacted], ages 22 and 20, who are with the People's Temple organization in Guyana.

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I believe you will find his letter self-explanatory and Congressman Burton would appreciate any assistance you might provide in his request.

We realize that the two children are considered adults, but if they would contact their father in the United States, I am sure this would be very reassuring to him.

Thank you for any help you can provide. We would appreciate your response on any information in this regard to Congressman Burton's San Francisco office.

Sincerely,

Lisa S. Gonzalez

LISA S. GONZALEZ
Assistant

Enclosures
cc: [redacted]

EMBASSY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
APR 14 1978
GEORGETOWN

THIS STATIONERY PRINTED ON PAPER MADE WITH RECYCLED FIBERS

[redacted]

February 6, 1978

The Honorable Cyrus Vance
Secretary of State
U.S. State Department
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Secretary:

I would like to express to you my grave concern about my two sons who are now living in Guyana--with the People's Temple--a communal church led by Mr. Jim Jones.

I have not heard from them for almost two years and my letters to the Temple have not been forwarded to them, but have been returned to me. [redacted] who was also in the Temple, left it two years ago. From her, I have learned a variety of things that have occurred and are practiced in the People's Temple. Some of these include the public beating of church members, their degradation before the assembled congregation, the signing of self-incriminating statements, and so on. I personally have been shown, by a Mr. Chaikin, one of the Temple attorneys, a copy of one such self-incriminating statement. At the time I was shown the statement, he and other Temple representatives were telling me tha[redacted]was having sexual relations with her foster father, in order (I suspect) to enlist my support in returning her to Temple membership. I came to the conclusion, in my contacts with Temple representatives, that the Temple is a very powerful organization which is paranoid in philosophy (society will attempt to crush us) and is very secretive concerning its operations. I also came to the conclusion that it systematically limits the information and news received by its members concerning the rest of society, and by persuasion and coercion actively attempts to prevent defectors from its ranks.

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I am writing you in the hope that the State Department might be able to assist me in personally contacting my sons. I would like to see them in such a situation as might make it possible for them to make a relatively free choice to leave or stay in the Temple. Friends of mine have contacted their children after considerable effort and expense, only to meet their children surrounded by Temple members, and only after their children had apparently been subjected to great psychological pressure under conditions of sleep deprivation.

I also hope that the State Department and other government departments might consider investigating Temple affairs both in Guyana and in the United States. I consider it a reasonable possibility that the Temple, having sizeable amounts of United States dollars in its possession, may eventually be able to subvert the government of Guyana--a small underdeveloped and unsophisticated country. If the latter occurs, it would certainly not be in the interests of the United States.

I would appreciate your responding to me concerning my request for assistance in my efforts to reach my two sons--Christian, age 22, and Michael, age 20) in Guyana at your earliest convenience.

Sincerely,

[redacted]

[redacted]

February 28, 1978

MAR 27 1978

Honorable John Burton
Representative in Congress
~~910 D San Rafael Way~~
~~San Francisco, CA 94127~~

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MAR 1 0 1978

CONG. NORMAN Y. MINETA

Dear Mr. Burton:

I am enclosing copies of letters I have written to the Prime Minister of Guyana and to the U.S. Secretary of State asking for assistance in contacting my two adult sons who are members of the People's Temple, a communal church led by a Mr. Jim Jones. I am also enclosing my resume, for purposes of identification.

I would appreciate any assistance that you may be able to give me in contacting my two sons. I wish to see them personally in a situation that may enable them to make a relatively independent decision as to whether they would want to return to the United States or to stay in Guyana.

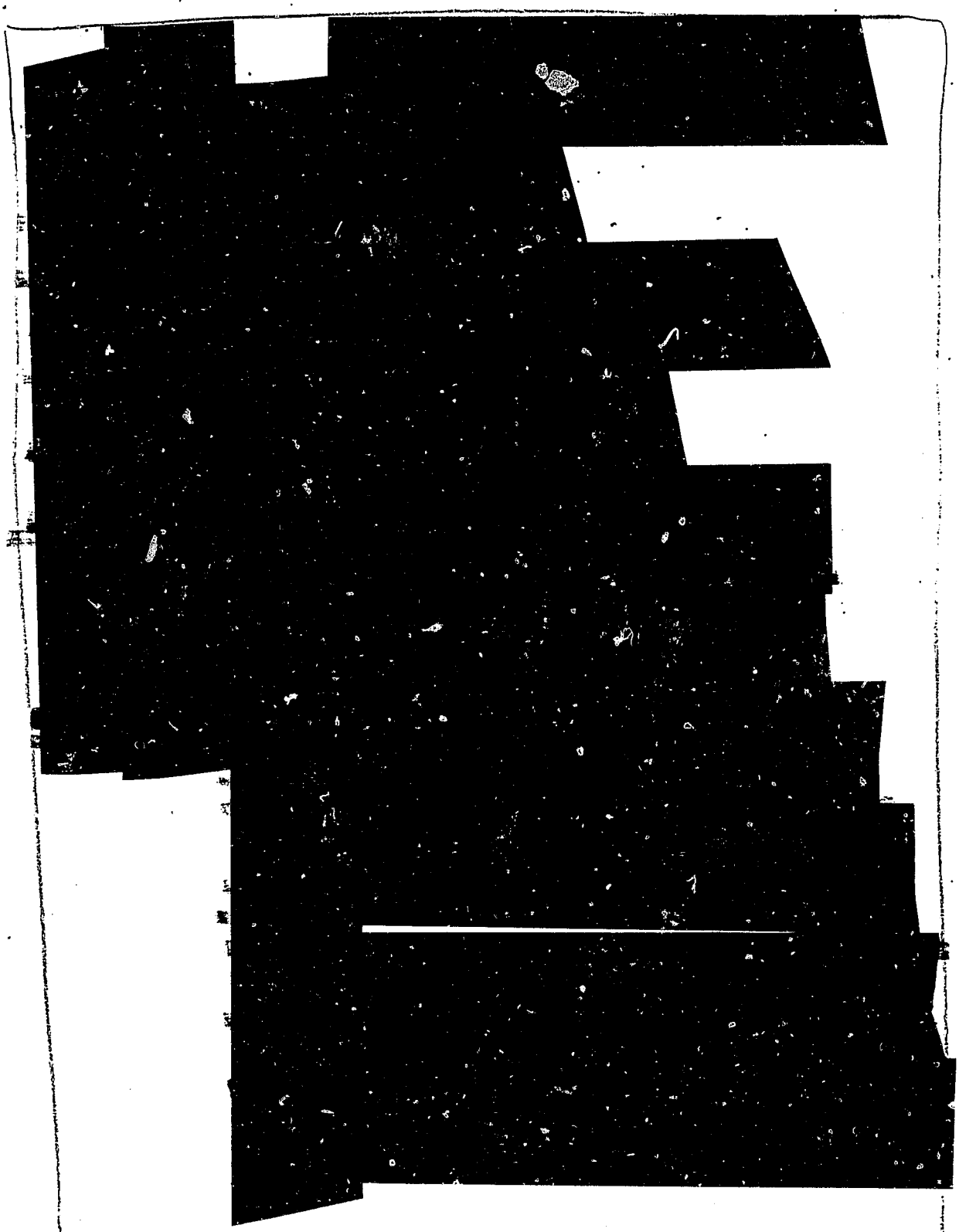
I will be most happy to provide you with any additional information if you so wish.

Thank you for your attention.

Sincerely yours,

[redacted]

Enc. Copies of 2 letters
Copy of resume



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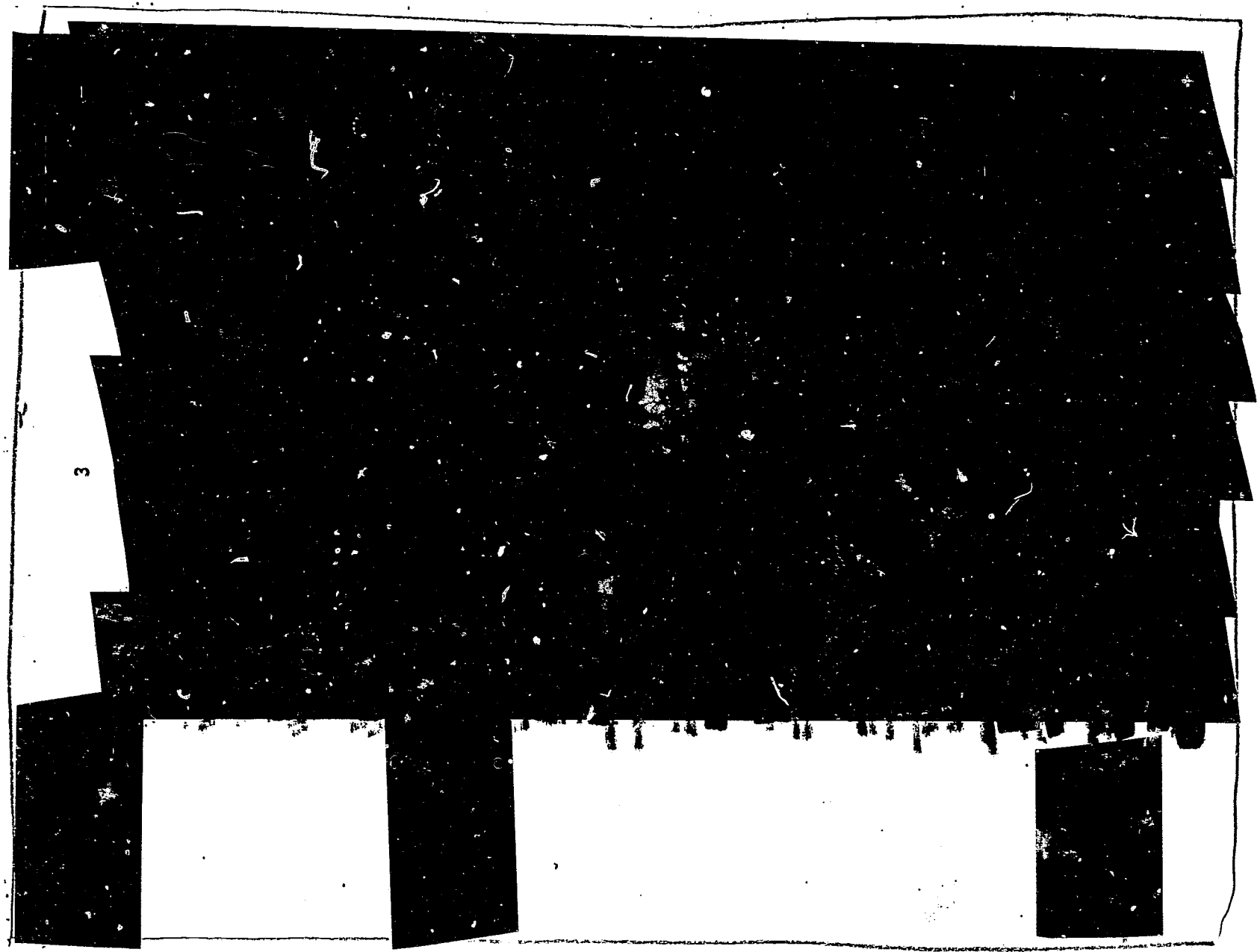

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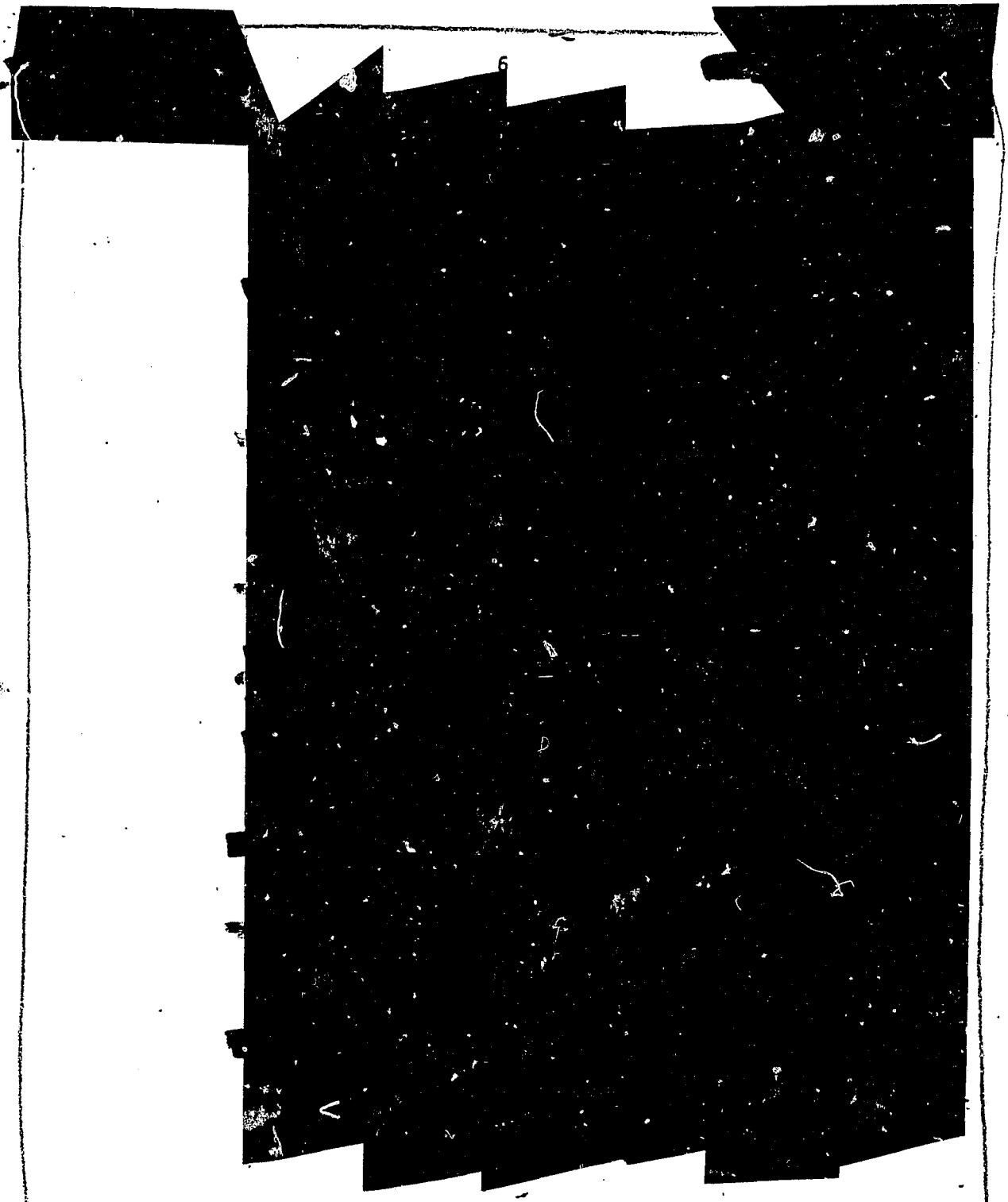

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